

EXHIBIT D

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

LYNNE FREEMAN, an individual,

Plaintiff,

-against-

Case No. 1:22-cv-02435-AT

TRACY DEEBS-ELKENANEY P/K/A TRACY WOLFF, an individual, EMILY SYLVAN KIM, an individual, PROSPECT AGENCY, LLC, a New Jersey limited liability company, ENTANGLED PUBLISHING, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC D/B/A MACMILLAN, a New York limited liability company, UNIVERSAL CITY STUDIOS, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and CRAZY MAPLE STUDIO, INC., a California Corporation,

Defendants.

**DEFENDANT HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC D/B/A
MACMILLAN LLC'S ANSWERS AND OBJECTIONS TO
PLAINTIFF'S FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES**

Pursuant to Rules 26 and 33 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Rule 33.3 of the Southern District of New York, defendant Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC d/b/a Macmillan ("Defendant" or "Macmillan") hereby serves its answers and objections to Lynne Freeman's ("Plaintiff") First Set of Interrogatories dated June 16, 2022 (each, an "Interrogatory," and collectively, the "Interrogatories") as follows:

GENERAL OBJECTIONS

Defendant makes the following General Objections to the Interrogatories and incorporates by reference therein the Definitions set forth in Macmillan's First Set of Document Requests, dated July 15, 2022. These General Objections apply to each of the Interrogatories, set forth immediately below, and are incorporated therein by reference. The assertion of the same, similar, or additional

objections in response to specific Interrogatories does not waive any of Defendant's General Objections. The provision of a substantive answer to any specific Interrogatory shall not be construed as an admission that Plaintiff is entitled to any response more specific than provided:

1. Defendant objects to the Definitions and Interrogatories to the extent that they purport to impose on Defendant duties or obligations beyond, or inconsistent with, those set forth in the Local Rules and the Federal Rules, including but not limited to Fed. R. Civ. P. 33(a) and Local Rule 33.3.

2. Defendant objects to each Interrogatory to the extent it seeks information outside the scope of this proceeding. Defendant further objects to each Interrogatory to the extent that it seeks information that is neither relevant to the claims or defenses of any party within the meaning of Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b), nor proportional to the needs of the case.

3. Defendant objects to each Interrogatory to the extent it seeks information that is not within Defendant's possession, custody, or control. Defendant responds to each Interrogatory only with respect to information within its possession, custody, or control.

4. Defendant objects to each Interrogatory to the extent it seeks information already in the possession, custody, or control of Plaintiff and/or his counsel; or to which Plaintiff has equal or greater access than Defendant; or that is publicly available.

5. Defendant objects to each Interrogatory to the extent it seeks information that may be derived from business records and other documents being produced in this litigation, and the burden of deriving and ascertaining the answers is substantially the same for Plaintiff as for Defendant, consistent with Fed. R. Civ. P. 33(d).

6. Defendant objects to each Interrogatory to the extent it seeks information protected from disclosure by the attorney-client privilege, the work product doctrine, and/or any other

applicable privilege or protection from discovery. Such information shall not be provided in response to Plaintiff's Interrogatories, and any inadvertent disclosure thereof shall not be deemed a waiver of any privilege or protection with respect to such information.

7. Defendant objects to each Interrogatory to the extent it seeks information that is confidential or proprietary business information belonging to Defendant.

8. Defendant objects to each Interrogatory to the extent it is vague, ambiguous, overly broad, and unduly burdensome. To the extent Defendant seeks to provide information in response to portions of an Interrogatory that are vague or ambiguous, Defendant will make a good faith effort to interpret each Interrogatory.

9. Defendant objects to each Interrogatory to the extent the use of any such Interrogatory is not a more practical method of obtaining the information sought than a request for production of documents or a deposition.

10. Defendant objects to each Interrogatory to the extent it assumes disputed facts or legal conclusions in defining the information requested. Defendant denies any such disputed facts or legal conclusions to the extent assumed by each Interrogatory. Any response or objection by Defendant to any such Interrogatory is without prejudice to this objection.

11. In providing responses to the Interrogatories, Defendant does not waive and expressly reserves all objections as to the competency, authenticity, relevancy, materiality, and admissibility as evidence of the responses provided herein, as well as all objections to any other discovery notices.

12. Defendants object to Plaintiff's definition of "CRAVE BOOK SERIES" to the extent that it includes the books *Charm* and *Cherish*, which have not yet been released to the public. Defendants further object to Plaintiff's definition of "CRAVE BOOK SERIES" to the

extent that it includes the books *Charm* and *Cherish*, which are not included in the allegations in Plaintiff's Complaint. Subject to the foregoing objections, Defendants will interpret the definition of "CRAVE BOOK SERIES" to mean the books *Crave*, *Crush*, *Covet*, and *Court*.

13. Defendant objects to Plaintiff's definition of "BMR" to the extent that it assumes that Plaintiff's manuscripts, including, but not limited to, the versions entitled *Blue Moon Rising* and *Masqued*, were allegedly infringed by the CRAVE BOOK SERIES. Defendant further objects to Plaintiff's definition of "BMR" to the extent that Defendant has never and does not currently have access to Plaintiff's manuscript entitled *Blue Moon Rising* or *Masqued*. Accordingly, Defendant will interpret "BMR" to mean the October 10, 2013 version of Plaintiff's manuscript titled *Masqued*.

14. Defendant objects to the Interrogatories to the extent they are unlimited in temporal scope, and, in fact, there is no temporal scope identified whatsoever. Defendant further objects to each Interrogatory not tied to a reasonable date range as overly broad, unduly burdensome, harassing in nature, and constituting a fishing expedition that is not reasonably likely to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. Notwithstanding the foregoing objections, Defendant will provide information from the time period most relevant to each specific Interrogatory, including, but not limited to, the range of dates relevant to the creation of the books *Crave*, *Crush*, *Covet*, and *Court*.

15. Defendant reserves the right to supplement, alter or amend these Answers and Objections, if necessary or appropriate.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS AND ANSWERS

Without waiver of, or prejudice to, any of its General Objections, Defendant answers and responds to each Interrogatory as follows:

INTERROGATORIES

Interrogatory No. 1:

With respect to each book in the CRAVE BOOK SERIES, please set forth all gross revenue you have received or accrued in connection with the writing or exploitation of the book up to the date of your responses to this interrogatory, such response shall include the source of the revenues, the amount of the revenues and the dates when such revenues were received or accrued by YOU, including, but not limited to, any revenues received from any of the other Defendants in this ACTION.

Answer to Interrogatory No. 1:

Defendant repeats and incorporates its General Objections as if fully set forth herein, and further objects to this Interrogatory on the ground that it seeks information outside the scope of, and inconsistent with, Local Rule 33.3, insofar as it seeks information aside from “names of witnesses with knowledge of information relevant to the subject matter of the action” or the “existence, custodian, location, and general description of relevant documents.” Defendant further objects to this Interrogatory on the ground that it seeks information that is neither relevant to the claims or defenses of any party, nor proportional to the needs of the case and will respond to this Interrogatory only as it relates to the subject matter of this action. Defendant further objects to this Interrogatory on the ground that the terms “you,” “gross revenue,” “received,” “accrued,” “writing,” “exploitation,” and “revenues” are vague and ambiguous in this context. Defendant further objects to this Interrogatory on the ground that it seeks information that is confidential or proprietary business information belonging to Defendant. Defendant further objects to this Interrogatory as overly broad and unduly burdensome. Defendant further objects to this Interrogatory to the extent it is not reasonably likely to lead to discoverable information.

Accordingly, and without waiver of any of its objections, Defendant will provide responsive information in the form of documents responsive to Plaintiff’s Document Requests, including, but not limited to, Document Request Nos. 47 and 48, to the extent such responsive, non-privileged documents exist.

Interrogatory No. 2:

With respect to each book in the CRAVE BOOK SERIES, please set forth all expenses incurred by YOU directly in connection with the writing or exploitation of each book up to the date of your response to this interrogatory, such response shall include a description of the expenses, the amount of the expenses and the date of the expenses.

Answer to Interrogatory No. 2:

Defendant repeats and incorporates its General Objections as if fully set forth herein, and further objects to this Interrogatory on the ground that it seeks information outside the scope of, and inconsistent with, Local Rule 33.3, insofar as it seeks information aside from “names of witnesses with knowledge of information relevant to the subject matter of the action” or the “existence, custodian, location, and general description of relevant documents.” Defendant further objects to this Interrogatory on the ground that it seeks information that is neither relevant to the claims or defenses of any party, nor proportional to the needs of the case and will respond to this Interrogatory only as it relates to the subject matter of this action. Defendant further objects to this Interrogatory on the ground that the terms “expenses,” “incurred,” “writing,” and “exploitation,” are vague and ambiguous in this context. Defendant further objects to this Interrogatory on the ground that it seeks information that is confidential or proprietary business information belonging to Defendant. Defendant further objects to this Interrogatory as overly broad and unduly burdensome. Defendant further objects to this Interrogatory to the extent it is not reasonably likely to lead to discoverable information.

Accordingly, and without waiver of any of its objections, Defendant will not answer this Interrogatory.

Dated: New York, New York
July 15, 2022

COWAN, DEBAETS, ABRAHAMS &
SHEPPARD LLP

By: /s/ Nancy E. Wolff

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*Attorneys for Defendant Holtzbrinck
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, CeCe M. Cole, hereby certify that a true and correct complete copy of Defendant Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC d/b/a Macmillan's Answers and Objections to Plaintiff's First Set of Interrogatories have been served on counsel of record for Lynne Freeman by email on July 15, 2022, to:

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By: s/ CeCe M. Cole